(d) if so, whether Government have considered its recommendations;

(e) how many of its recommendations have been accepted so far; and

(f) how many of them will be implemented in the next Budget and also in the next Plan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (f) The National Commission on Farmers in its Second Interim Report has projected a requirement of Rs. 8337 crores for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report. The recommendations cover several aspects of agriculture and allied sectors and are aimed to enhance the livelihood security especially in rural aeas.

The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

New Agriculture Policy

1065. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an NSSO survey has revealed that agriculture instead of assuring the status of industry has, since the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan been rendered economically unviable with per acre yield dwindling and land holdings squeezing over the years;

(b) if so, the extent to which the per acre yield has dwindled and land holdings squeezed since the beginning of the Ninth Plan period, as per NSSO survey; and

(c) whether Government have revised or propose to evolve a New Agriculture Policy, if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The situation asessment survey of farmers submitted in July 2005 by National Sample Survey Organisation has estimated that 27 per cent of the farmer households do not like farming as profession as it is not profitable.

(b) Although the per hectare yield has been fluctuating, it shows increasing trend over the years. According to the available reports, the average size of the operational land holdings has declined due to increase in population and other socio-economic factors.

(c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal at this stage.